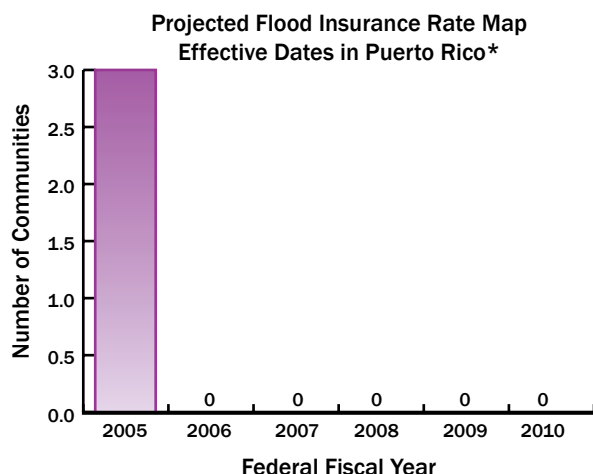


# Puerto Rico Five-Year Plan Summary

## COMMUNITY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM – STATE SUPPORT SERVICES ELEMENT



\*Currently includes both participating and non-participating communities from Multi-Year Flood Hazard Identification Plan (MHIP) sequencing, Version 1.5, June 2005.

### PURPOSE

This report is an outcome of the review of the Federal Fiscal Year (FY) 2005-2009 Floodplain Management Work Plans by the Department of Homeland Security's Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). It is intended to show the relationship of Community Assistance Program – State Support Services Element (CAP-SSSE) activities, and resource allocation, the State is undertaking in response to the flood mapping production schedule of Flood Map Modernization, and to highlight the efforts that are underway to achieve the flood loss reduction goals of the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP).

### COMMONWEALTH'S VISION FOR FLOODPLAIN MANAGEMENT

The vision of the Puerto Rico Planning Board (PRPB), in support of the NFIP, will be carried out through the Flood Unit, which is the operational and technical area within the PRPB. The Flood Unit is in charge of floodplain ordinances and managing the NFIP Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRMs) for Puerto Rico.

The Flood Unit is assigned to the Subprogram of Land Use Plans of the Physical Planning Program of the PRPB, and it is responsible for managing the

floodplain. At the same time, the Flood Unit closely coordinates with the office of the Caribbean Division on NFIP activities in Puerto Rico. Presently, the Flood Unit has two personnel of the PRPB participating in the development and implementation of NFIP activities in Puerto Rico.

### COMMONWEALTH'S FLOODPLAIN MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY

The PRPB is the governmental agency appointed by the Puerto Rico Governor as the NFIP State Coordinating Agency. One of the main responsibilities of the PRPB is the compliance of floodplain ordinances, NFIP maps, and Federal regulations. In addition to coordinating NFIP activities, the PRPB also promotes flood awareness to minimize risks.

### SIGNIFICANT ACCOMPLISHMENTS, STRENGTHS, OR SUCCESS STORIES OF THE FLOODPLAIN MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

Recent significant accomplishments of the Flood Unit include:

- A Community Assistance Program Conference on floods August 16, 2005;
- Developed a new quarterly bulletin with the main purpose to disseminate

### GAP ANALYSIS

**\*\*How many Full Time Equivalents (FTEs) are employed for floodplain management in the Commonwealth's agency:** **2**

**How many additional FTEs are needed to perform floodplain management activities:** **1**

**What percent/number of floodprone communities participate in the NFIP:** **100%/3**

**What percent/number of NFIP communities participate in the Community Rating System:** **0%/0**

\*\*Referenced from the Association of State Floodplain Managers' *Floodplain Management* 2003, *State and Local Programs*



# FEMA

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information about floodplain regulations, mapping, and the NFIP. The bulletin is distributed island-wide to the municipalities, state agencies, and the general public;

- Prepared and distributed island-wide, a poster, known as "Los Valles Inundables" (The Floodplains) encouraging wise use of floodplains;
- Developed and disseminated flood insurance information through Puerto Rico News Channel 6;
- Translated the pamphlet "Answers to Questions about the NFIP" into Spanish. Ten thousand copies were reproduced for distribution to the municipalities, State agencies, and general public;
- Offered a technical orientation on the NFIP and the application process for enrolling to five municipalities;
- Offered general technical assistance to municipalities, State, and public agencies, through phone contacts, in person, or by letter; and,
- Identified and prioritized flood studies for FEMA's Flood Map Modernization Program.

### OVER THE NEXT FIVE YEARS, WHERE DOES PUERTO RICO FORESEE A SHORTAGE OF RESOURCES?

Currently, two PRPB technical officials are designated to the Flood Unit. The PRPB needs to expand its capacity to effectively supervise the NFIP program in Puerto Rico. Therefore, the PRPB anticipates the need to increase the quantity of professional resources that would be in charge of the technical aspects, data exchange, information and dissemination, and administration of the program:

1. To coordinate with flood studies;
2. Perform technical reviews of maps and other products;
3. Pursue partnerships (e.g., Cooperating Technical Partners) for data and information exchange;
4. Data integration for the Geographic Information System.

Technical officials of the PRPB require training in certain technical specialties. The personnel require training in the managing of some computer programs such as ArcView, MNUSS, and GPS systems for presentations, among other uses.

### FEDERALLY DECLARED DISASTERS/EMERGENCIES BY CALENDAR YEAR

PUERTO RICO	2004	2005
Federally Declared Disasters	Tropical Storm Jeanne and Resulting Landslides and Mudslides – September 17	N/A
Federally Declared Emergency Declarations	N/A	N/A

### FLOOD INSURANCE AND LOSS SUMMARY FROM 1978 TO SEPTEMBER 30, 2005

	TOTAL CURRENT POLICIES	TOTAL PREMIUM (\$)**	NUMBER OF CLAIMS***	TOTAL DOLLARS PAID (\$)****
NATIONAL RANKINGS*	56,701	\$23,039,208	21,417	\$105,235,621
	13th	15th	17th	23rd

\* National ranking based on NFIP NextGen data; ranked from highest to lowest.

\*\* The total amount of premiums for policies in-force.

\*\*\* The total number of claims reported.

\*\*\*\* The total amount paid on claims.

### ADDITIONAL CONTACTS

FEMA REGIONAL CAP-SSSE COORDINATOR	STATE NFIP/MAP MODERNIZATION MANAGEMENT SUPPORT COORDINATOR	STATE HAZARD MITIGATION OFFICER	STATE GIS COORDINATOR
<b>Kimberly Rizzo</b> <b>FEMA Region II</b> 26 Federal Plaza New York, NY 10278 Phone: (212) 680-3609 E-mail: <a href="mailto:Kim.Rizzo@dhs.gov">Kim.Rizzo@dhs.gov</a>	<b>Angel Rodriguez</b> Puerto Rico Planning Board P.O. Box 41119 Minillas Government Center Santurce, PR 00940-1119 Phone: (787) 723-6200 Fax: (787) 268-6858 E-mail: <a href="mailto:rodriguez_a@jp.gobierno.pr">rodriguez_a@jp.gobierno.pr</a>	<b>Carmen Anna Abrahamson</b> Office of the Governor's Authorized Representative P.O. Box 9021812 San Juan, PR 00902-1812	N/A